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SATURDAY, JULY 31, 1875.

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No. 7.

Lamiras, a poet and celebrated musician of ancient Greece, was a native of Thrace. He flourished before Homer, and, not only invented the Doric measure, but was the first who accompanied his voice with the harp.

Orlando di Lasso, a native of Mons, in Hainault, born in the year 1520, was the contemporary of Cipriani Rore. The historian, Thuanus, has given Orlando a place among the illustrious men of his time. Orlando and Cipriani were the first who hazarded what are now called chromatic passages.

Lasus, according to Suidas, was a native of Hermione, a city of Peloponuesus, in the kingdom of Argos. He flourished in the fifty-eighth Olympiad, five hundred and forty-eight years before Christ, and was the most ancient author known who had written upon the theory of music. Plutarch, in his dialogue on music, says, "Lasus was a great innovator, who imitated the compass and variety of wind instruments as well as Epigonus, who was the inventor of the instrument of forty-strings. Theon, of Smyrna, testife that Large results the Parkher are Historical Control of the control of tifies that Lasus, as well as the Pythagorean Hippasus, of Metapontus, made use of two vases of the same size and tone, in order to calculate the exact ratio or proportion of concords. For, by leaving one of the vases empty, and filling the other half full of water, they became octaves to each other; and, filling one a fourth part full, and the other a third, the percussion of the two vessels produced the concords of fourth and fifth, from which process resulted the proportions of these three concords contained in the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4. Plutarch also says that Lasus introduced a dithyrambic license or irregularity into musical measure, or rhythm, and, upon his lyre, imi-

tated the compass and variety of the flute. Henry Lawes, a native of Salisbury, and born in the year 1600, a pupil of Coperario, is celebrated for having introduced the Italian style of music into this kingdom; Milton's Comus was originally set to music by Lawes, and was first represented on Michaelmas night 1634, at Ludlow Castle, in Shropshire. The music never appeared in print. Lawes composed the coronation anthem for King Charles II. He died in 1662, and was interred in Westminster Abbey.

Rev. W. Leeves, of Wrington, in Somersetshire, is the composer of the still prevailing melody of "Auld Robin Gray," which has been erroneously attributed to many. He also published a volume of glees, about the year 1790, in conjunction with Dr Harrington, of Bath, and Edmund Broderip, the organist of Wells Cathedral.

Leonardo Leo, born at Naples in 1694, was one of the most laborious, brilliant, and sublime composers of Italy. Amongst his compositions for the church, his Miserere is particularly celebrated for its profound his Miserer is particularly celebrated for its profound knowledge of counterpoint, its grandeur and purity of style, and its natural and ingenious employment of modulation and imitation; it has been judged equal to that of Jomelli. Leo invented that species of air called, by the Italians, aria dostinazione, or obbligato airs. His compositions in this style are highly classical. Leo was the founder of a school of singuize in Naples which tended to increase the form singing in Naples, which tended to increase the fame of his country as a nursery for those celebrated singers which have filled the Italian theatres of the different European courts. Lee was in every respect eminently serviceable to the progress of his art. He died at Naples in 1745, and 6fty, one died at Naples in 1745, aged fifty-one.

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W

my lear from d'exped The hathet for the Mulharmone for nunday ever day, Juget Do you done noth me orop me half

a line mund I that come to tour express An an Concert !!!!! Menal

I M Davin Sola glace
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W. C

RICHARD WAGNER, AND HIS RING OF THE NIBLUNG.

(From the "New Quarterly Magazine.")
(Continued from page 502.)

The third drama of the tetralogy, Siegfried, to which we shall now have to turn our attention, was the second in the order of conception. In it Wagner was chiefly attracted by the charm of a character developed in immediate contact with nature; being, indeed, one with nature, and therefore like it, fresh and ever new in its impulsive naiveté. This character is that of Sieg-Fried, the hero of the two last dramas of our cycle. His mother, Sieglinde, on her flight from Wotan's wrath, has been met by Mime, the Niblung, who, by his brother Alberich's command, lives in a wild forest to watch Fafner and his ill-gotten treasure. The latter, by power of the ring, has taken the shape of an enormous worm or dragon. Mime recognises the pieces of the sword, and, knowing the miraculous powers of the babe to be born of Sieglinde, gives her shelter, in the hope of recovering the treasure by means of her son. Sieglinde dies at the birth of her child, and Siegfried grows up with Mime, trying in vain to conquer his aversion to the ugly dwarf, whose affection he instinctively feels to be assumed. Much has Mime to suffer from the youthful feels to be assumed. Much has mine to safer from the youthan freaks of his unmanageable pupil. In the opening scene of our drama we see him frightened almost to death by a young bear which Siegfried has caught in the wood, and calmly introduces want segment into the dwarf's smithy. In vain also Mime tries to weld a weapon adapted to Siegfried's impetuous strength; numberless swords the youth has smashed at first handling. At last, Mime is obliged to show Siegfried the pieces of his father's sword, and to tell him the sad tale of his mother's death, which we have anticipated in the above. Siegfried, delighted to hear that the ugly dwarf is not his father, at once resolves to leave him; his own sword he fashions from the pieces of Siegmund's weapon, and to test its strength, beats it on the anvil, which he cuts in two. In order to prevent him from setting out on his journey at once, Mime reminds Siegfried of his inexperience in worldly matters; he does not even know what fear is; Perhaps Fafner, the dragon, may teach him. Siegfried curious to know what Mime's meaning can be, at once resolves to seek the dragon's lair, and both leave the house together: not, however, before the treacherous dwarf has brewed a poisonous drink, to get rid of Siegfried as soon as he has killed the dragon. The story of one going out to learn what it is to be afraid, occurs frequently in German popular tradition from the Edda down to the fairy-tale collections of our present

day.

The killing of the dragon itself is represented in strict accordance with the old story; but the scene immediately preceding it is entirely of Wagner's invention. It shows Siegfried sitting alone in the wood, musing over his friendless existence, and thinking of his mother, whom he has never seen; listening at the same time to the song of a wild bird, and in vain trying to imitate its note on a reed. The whole forms an idyllic episode of the sweetest charm; and the mysterious life and whirr of the forest on a summer's day has been rendered by Wagner in an orchestral piece of almost symphonic import and replete with romantic emetion.

After having killed the worm, Siegfried accidentally tastes of its blood, and at once understands the language of the birds, who tell him of the ring and the tarn-hemlet, as also of Mime's intended treachery. In a fit of disgust, he kills the venomous creature, and throws his corpse, together with that of the dragon, into the latter's cave. Thus Alberich's curse has once more proved fatal to the owner of the ring.* Unconscious of the danger incurred by his new possession, Siegfried follows the voice of another bird, which sweetly sings of the maiden sleeping on a rock, surrounded by flames.

(To be continued.)

MACFARREN'S "IDYLL" ON BENNETT.

(From the "Sunday Times.")

As a matter of course the principal interest of the occasion was concentrated upon the "Idyll" of Professor Macfarren—a tribute from the present to the past occupant of the Chair at Cambridge. That such a token of respect and love would be forthcoming was as pre-assured as the fact of Mr Macfarren's being nominated Sterndale Bennett's successor. In a piece of music such as the "Idyll," abstract criticism can deal but partially with the value of the work. Pièce d'occasion though it may be termed, the homage which one master of musical language pays to the memory of another can be gauged by no common standard of judgment; the critic who, in the fulfilment of his function, metes out his praise or dispraise according as the result appeals to his sense of beauty or artistic fitness, "hears and not hears," judging by the ear alone and not by the force of sentiment or sympathy. In a case such as this now before us it needs one, who can place himself morally and mentally in the position of the artist, to pass opinion upon the work. Fortunately Mr Macfarren has given us data which render this seemingly impossible task easy of accomplishment. The points in Bennett's character and career that have been most prominent in the recollection of his friend are "his inborn genius; his early orphanhood; the expansion of his powers under kind nurture; his entry on the active life of the metropolis; his transplantation to a foreign land, where the musical uses and social surroundings were a new soil and climate for the cultivation of his artistry; the ripening of his strength under these influences; his scholastic offices in England, with their duties; the resumed exercise of his productive ability; his gently falling into the everlasting sleep; the triumphant homage to his music, when the heart of England beat with pride in her honoured son; the feeling of the mourners that himself was present among them, when his own strain was sung; and the glorification of art in man's acknowledgment of her representative." It is not often that a tonepoet gives such a perfect index of his intention as this: it has its manifest advantages, however, in preventing gratuitous supposition, the while it affords a clue to the animus of the work. Against these particulars it would be unfitting to array a series of technical details. Our readers will believe that Mr Macfarren's music is not lacking in the tenderness and pathos requisite for the illustration of such a subject in such a manner; and they will know beforehand that the treatment of the theme is as completely individual as it is artistic. But one portion of the work need be singled out for comment, where, towards the close, the subject of the quartet, "God is a spirit," is brought in, almost in a whisper, by the instruments. The connection between this and the final portion of Mr Macfarren's statement, quoted above, is too obvious, to necessitate further consideration at our hands. The reception awarded to the "Idyll" was triumphant, and the applause re-doubled when Mr Macfarren, who was in the body of the hall, rose and signified his acknowledgment of the greeting. It was well perhaps that the "Idyll" was not repeated; taking many of us painfully close, as it did, to a most painful though glorious occasion, it would have come like a repetition of the obsequies. Wherever English art is known Sterndale Bennett must perforce be loved; and the respect and admiration for his worthy successor will be heightened by this present testimony of brotherly affection, at once so admirably and delicately expressed.

Carlsbad (Bohemia).—C. Oberthür's Overture, "Rübezahl," was performed here, for the first time, on the 13th inst., under M. Ang. Labitzky's direction, and met with immense success. At the same concert, F. Schubert's Overture to Fierrabras, Jos. Labitzky's Potpourri on Bohemian National Airs (by desire), Aug. Labitzky's Hungarian Gipsy Polka, and E. Bach's "Fantasie Dramatique" on Halevy's opera, La Juive, were given. Herr Carl Jirmus played a harp solo by Parish-Alvars in masterly style.

Stockholm.—The fine orchestra of the Berlin Reichshalle is at

STOCKHOLM.—The fine orchestra of the Berlin Reichshalle is at present here, with music-director Fliege, and gives very interesting concerts at the Royal Djurgarden. The programme of the 18th inst. contained, amongst other things, Mozart's Overture to Don Giovanni, Introduction to Bruch's Loreley, Weber's "Invitation to the Valse," and Beethowen's Overture, "Leonore." The only instrumental solo was C. Oberthür's brilliant Harp Fantasia on Dinorah, splendidly played by Mdlle Anna Dubez, harpist to the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

^{*} For want of space I have had to omit several scenes, in one of which Wotan, as the Wanderer, enters into a contest of "questions and answers" with Mime. Each is allowed to ask three questions, which, if the other fail to answer, his head is at the mercy of the querist. The dwarf loses the game, but is respited by the god to find his doom at Siegfried's hands. The whole scene breathes the quaint shrewdness of some of the Eddic poems.

JOHN HULLAH SPEAKS.*

My Lords,-The number of training colleges in Great Britain is now forty-six. Four of these have two departments, male and female; practically therefore fifty colleges are now under inspection. During the past year I was engaged, from the 24th of August to the 10th of December, in the examination in music of the second year students in these colleges, 1,828 in number. My course and method of examination differed in no essential particular from those of the foregoing year. The students sang to me, collectively, some piece or pieces of choral music, under the direction of their teacher; but I did not, as in 1872, my first year, test them in singing thus, at sight. My reasons for abandoning this test, after one year's trial, I gave in detail in the last report I had the honour to submit to your lordships. Two years' additional experience has led me to value, less even than before, collective musical skill, however exhibited, as evidence of individual. Indeed, last year I made a point everywhere of cautioning students against the danger, inseparable from all musical teaching in class, arising from one student's singing helping another's too much. Paradoxical as it may sound, I have repeatedly found individual power, especially in reading, least satisfactory among students, the results of whose combined performances were the most agreeable. In most cases this could only be fairly attributed to the apathy, indolence, or timidity, of such students; but in others their teachers have been to blame, in spending time that should have been devoted to the essentials of their subject on its accidents and adornments. M. Guizot, after hearing (in the capacity of Minister of Public Instruction) some music classes in Paris, is recorded to have said "c'est très bien," and then, after a moment, "c'est trop bien." The remark would indicate some special acquaintance with the subject of it. Whether M. Guizot had this or not, it proves that his keen perception had led him to detect, beneath the polish that came immediately under the eye or the touch, the flimsiness of the material to which it had been applied. The work before the teachers of music in the training colleges (many of them are now thoroughly well aware of it) for some years to come, will be to insure for their pupils, before they part with them, that sympathy of eye and ear, the possession of which is the first condition of their being able to teach anything worth knowing to others; i.e., to make them independent readers, not mere mouth-pieces of what has to be put into them "by ear." To students honestly prepared for their consideration the refinement or nuances of musical performance will commend themselves soon enough, and their attainment prove a matter of little labour. Over attention, or more properly, premature attention, to them can answer no purpose but to encourage self-satisfaction among incompetent students, and win the applause of visitors ignorant of music, or not in a position to estimate at its true value the sham put before them. I shall hardly be suspected of a wish to discourage the correction of bad habits in the utterance of words or of notes, but I protest against anything like an entire practice (I have known this done) being spent on the delivery of a single passage so softly as to be hardly audible; only perhaps approximately so delivered at last, through half those concerned in it being silenced entirely.

To the prevalence of one bad habit in the training schools I take this opportunity of directing attention—a habit which would seem to have been found easier to imitate than I find it to describe. It consists in preceding the issue of a sound, by throwing the mouth, after every inhalation, into the position required for uttering the liquid M; giving an effect for example to the sol-fa syllables like MDo, MRe, and so on, and actually falsifying words beginning with vowels; making e into me, a into may, and so on.

Though the improvement in the training colleges, no less in the aims of teachers and students than in the results of them, exhibited last year on the one before it, was less marked than that of the latter on the year before it—the first year in which they were inspected—considerable improvement has still to be reported. Short-comings akin to those which I had to point out in my first report are still observable, but they are neither observable in as many places nor to the same extent. Thus in some colleges sufficient time has not even yet been appropriated to musical instruction and practice. Were this universally or even generally the case,

I might be driven, however unwillingly, to regard it as inevitable. But as a considerable number of those colleges, the students in which, year after year, take the highest places in the government examination, do find sufficient time for such instruction and practice, it is fair to suppose that all might. This "sufficient time" I do not pretend to adjudge by minutes or quarters of hours; but, as I have said on former occasions, I think that no day should go by in a training college without practice by the students of each year separately, under superintendence for which the musical instructor is responsible.

(To be continued.)

PIERSON'S JERUSALEM.
By Amicus Patrle (1852).
(Continued from page 510.)

The choruses, which are the next portion of the work that I have remarked upon as a whole, must now be in some degree particularized; I say in some degree, because it is impossible to award them justice individually in a limited treatise like the We must picture to ourselves the stiff-necked and impresent. pulsive Hebrew nation, listening with closed ears-from the last "How shall I pardon thee for this?"—to the storm of indignant prophecy and its fulfilment, which begins with "The Lord saith," prophecy and its fulfilment, which begins with "The Lord saith," and ends with the Roman march upon the city. Then comes the reaction—the feeble wail of conscience-stricken despair in "O Lord, according to thy righteousness;" and no grouping of plaintive voices ever told it more completely. The short arioso for an alto voice following upon it is perhaps the most original effort in the oratorio, "Go not forth into the field." The terror of the words is imparted with singular success to the voice part, and the effect of helpless dispersion to the accompaniment, thus showing, with a dramatic subtlety that is too true to nature to be called artifice, how utterly inefficacious is the appeal. No, the fat has gone forth, and prayer is quelled by the fury of "the nation from afar." "Go ye up upon her walls and destroy" is a chorus in which Mr Pierson's close attention to verbal accent tells with extraordinary effect. The mode in which both words and music go straight, as it were, to their object, almost depicts the fearful war engines of the Romans as they accomplish their work of ruin. It terminates the first part most efficiently. And now do we see Jerusalem sitting in sackcloth and ashes; the haughty people are bowed down; but a nice discernment of the finer shades of character brings in, in the opening chorus of the second part, "A voice of wailing," a melody tinged with plaintive beauty, as if literally the dance were stopped, and yet there lingered a trace of voluptuousness in the hearts of the stricken people.

After the fine tenor aria, "O that my head were waters," and the arioso for the alto, "The ways of Zion do mourn," occurs the really magnificent chorus, "O God! the heathen are come into thine inheritance." The style of the last two has changed: it is no longer the voice of the Lord speaking through the lips of his prophet, but that of his people who cry unto him, and the transition in character is perfect. The next, "Thus saith the Lord God" is one of the most vigorous. Here falls from Heaven the first ray of hope and comfort—"Break forth into joy, sing together!" This passage is depicted by the four vocal parts taking the intervals of the common chord in succession upon the words "Break forth," accompanied by one of those singular expansions of a group of notes in the orchestra, to which we have already adverted, which has a marvellous effect in painting delighted surprise. Immediately after a bass recit. and air, to which I cannot resist pointing attention, "Hear the word of the Lord," and "He that scattered Israel," occur two cheruses which will perhaps give more pleasure of a quiet and lasting kind than any other. "Then shall the virgin rejoice," and "The eternal God is thy refuge," separated by the only duet that is introduced, "The sons of strangers." The first of these is upon a melody of an exceedingly graceful character, and is equally gracefully instrumented. The last takes a grander scope; the people have lifted up their hearts once more, and glorious is the burst of their joy. The harmony and modulation of this chorus are compara-

^{*} Report, for the year 1874, by John Hullah, Esq., Inspector of Music, on the examination in music of the students of training colleges in Great Britain.

^{*} Before this occurs a soprano solo.

tively massive and simple, and, like some of Handel's brightest and best, its noble strains recur again and again to the memory.

It terminates the second part.

Part III, brings on the most interesting portion of the work in every sense of the word. "Watchman, what of the night," an arioso, announces that we have reached a new era; the Lord hath once more visited his people, and after an air already glanced at, the battle of Armageddon is depicted in an air for a soprano, "Proclaim ye this," and a chorus divided into two parts, "The sun and the moon shall be darkened," and "Then shall the Lord go forth," of extraordinary power and brilliancy. An alto solo, "Then shall ye know," brings in a chorus of a totally different character, "Fear not, O land," a piece of the richest counterpoint. The canto fermo is at first taken by the instruments (violins) but at length, after some very elaborate treatment, it is gathered together by the voices and trombones in a noble mass, while the stringed orchestra has the counterpoint. It is like the gray hoary granite that one sometimes sees rearing its natural pinnacles among climbing verdure; and the idea of the absence of fear, of firm reliance given by the one, and of joy, exulting joy by the other, is a masterly conception. This is one of the choruses most admired, for its elaborate management, by musicians.

(To be continued.)

THE AMERICAN REVIVALISTS.

(Continued from page 509.)

A West-end clergyman (Dr Fraser) gave like testimony as to his parish. He had been told that it was an admission of inefficiency to take lessons from Mr Moody. He was glad to take those lessons. He acknowledged no monopoly in preaching, and Mr Moody had preached with a downright simplicity that had made its way to thousands of hearts. Certain charges had been made against the Revivalists of misapplying or misquoting texts of Scripture. It might be so, but the speaker never had heard any such misquotation or misapplication, nor had he ever met any one who had.

Canon Conway spoke to the same effect. In old time a gifted but unauthorized preacher went from Ephesus to Corinth, recommended by the brethren, and in his preaching he even crossed the path of an Apostle, who was asked to forbid the intrusion, but he would not. "Paul (the Apostle said) might plant and Apollos water, but God alone gave the increase." That, the speaker said, is my precedent. The credential of Apollos was that he was mighty in the Word of God, and that was the only credential they had asked for from Mr Moody. Another clergyman or minister (Mr Wilson) said that the Churches had seen their traditions broken into, and their forms thrown to the winds. They had had the gospel both preached with power, and sung with power. He assured the Revivalists that they would carry away with them

the esteem and love of thousands.

Another clergyman (Mr Richardson) from the East-end of London said that in his parish (containing upwards of a thousand families) more than two out of three had attended Mr Moody's ser-Theatres had been worse attended. The dock labourers (on this he had evidence from the dock officials) had to a wonderful extent ceased swearing and drinking, and he had, together with his wife and his curate, talked with 700 persons who had been "awakened." He had been at every service of Mr Moody's, watching, learning, and helping, as far as he could. Another reverend gentleman (Mr Taylor, of what religious denomination we could not learn) from the South of London and a clergyman from the same locality spoke to a like effect, both gentlemen in particular testifying to the value of the Inquiry rooms. Others spoke of the Revival as having broken down sacerdotalism, scep-ticism, and worldliness, which had seemed in a fair way to flood the land. A Baptist minister (Mr Chown) made an earnest appeal to the Churches to send out other Moodys and Sankeys. Mr Moody himself spoke with great modesty. If they had done anything to make God's name known the glory was not theirs, but God's. This was his theme throughout, and, though now and then his voice was a little broken and shook somewhat, it had nothing in it at all resembling the orthodox whisper, and there was a good deal of humour in his manner of reminding a speaker that his five minutes were up. He generally, he said, found that a minister's ten minutes were twenty. Mr Sankey sang some of his favourite hymns, and in this way the two Revivalists brought their mission to an end. It was, on the whole, a meeting of a kind not often seen in London or anywhere. Men of high position (like Lord Shaftesbury, for instance) and men of lowly position (we saw a few poor labourers) had assembled for a common object—to endorse the work of the Revivalists and to bid them a friendly farewell. The cordial feeling of the meeting, barely restrained during the speeches, became at last most marked, and certainly there could be no doubt of its genuineness and sincerity. Very rarely indeed have two religious teachers succeeded in uniting so many different sections of the Christian Church so entirely and so

cordially.

Some time ago we directed attention to the admitted "extraordinary success" achieved by these men; that is, their undoubted success not merely in having attracted large congregations, but in the more difficult feat of having attracted the same large masses of people again and again. Taken on this ground alone, the Revivalists and their "mission" demand somewhat different treatment from a contemptuous dismissal on the ground that "cant" and "sensationalism" have once more carried the day. Instead of contemning what may merely be foreign to our habits of thought, we prefer to inquire wherein the power to attract these large masses of people lies, and whether on the whole that power is healthy. It were needless to say that no clergyman or minister of religion in the United Kingdom can consider himself above such an inquiry, however much he may disapprove Revivals and dislike Revivalists. The complaint is general that our churches and chapels, save in exceptional instances, are not crowded, and least of all by workmen. "Sunday tourists," "Sunday ramblers," "Sunday drinkers," have become the horror of religious teachers of all denominations. Many a good man and many an "indifferent" man among those teachers has long been in despair as to the future of Christian preaching and what is called "ministerial influence." Every sect has had its Revivals. The Roman Catholies have theirs under the name of "Retreats" and otherwise as a systematic part of religious life. The Ritualists have had theirs with an elaborate religious machinery never before known among Protestants in England. Lastly, the "Evangelicals" have had theirs with the attraction of converted prize-fighters, ex-publicans, and we know not what. Some people, in view of what they call the stagnation of religious life, have recommended greater variety in services and more singing, and in many of our churches there has been produced high class-music and a gorgeous ceremonial, while the Methodists have clung to their old congregational singing-to those simple tunes and those still more characteristic words in which the highest of all themes are often conveyed in phrases akin to those in which sentiments of affection are expressed between men and women in the flush and ardour of youth and impulse. Other people have recommended shorter services; others, a more systematic training of preachers, so that the word "preaching" may no longer, as they say, be a misnomer. The old argument that "though he is not a good preacher he is a singularly good man" has been by tacit consent voted out of the discussion. People, whatever their sympathies may be, have come to admit, as an argument resting on the fact "that though a poor carpenter or politician he is a singularly good man" would go dead against the politician or carpenter, so must a like argument go against the good man who, assuming the duties of a preacher, cannot preach. Another class of people have devised "Sunday lectures," "Sunday concerts," "Sunday discussions," in each case to attract people to some mental or moral "exercise," or recreation. The attraction is at times far from unexceptionable. No one, for instance, can deny that the walls of London are regularly placarded with terms as the themes of lectures more extravagant and "sensational" than any used by these Revivalists. Religious services are frequently announced under such headings as "The Flag that's braved a thousand years the battle and the One pities the man, whatever his position or his sect, who finds himself falling back on such a basis of operations; but this and many other facts not necessary to be named show that men engaged in active religious work are at their wits' end to discover some means to fill their respective places of worship or their lecture-halls.

(To be continued.)

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

OCTAVIUS SPEED.—Miss Laura Harris, Madame Vanzini, Mr William Castle, and Mr Campbell (Signor Campobello?), with other noted singers, if we are not misinformed, studied under the same master as Mdlle Zarê Thalberg.

E. CUNINGHAM BOOSEY.—No. Aliduke of the Mount was not even a distant relative to Reresby of Thyburgh, who came into the world about 1,000 years after him. Aliduke did write "lays," and

accompanied himself (at courts) on the post-lute.

A STUDENT.—We can recommend nothing better than the "Studies" of J. B. Cramer and the *Gradus ad Parnassum* of Muzio Clementi. The "Studies" of Kessler are, doubtless, excellent, while those of Steibelt are not only useful in a mechanical sense, but attractive as music.

DR RABBITS.—Grétry's Memoires sur la Musique relate almost as exclusively to himself, as do the Confessions of J. J. Rousseau to J. J. Rousseau. Dr Rabbits must mistake Diderot for d'Alembert. Moreover, it was Rousseau, not Rameau, who wrote the Dictionnaire de Musique, to which our correspondent refers.

NOTICE.

To ADVERTISERS.—The Office of the MUSICAL WORLD is at Messrs
DUNCAN DAVISON & Co.'s, 244, Regent Street, corner of Little
Argyll Street (First Floor). It is requested that Advertisements
may be sent not later than Thursday. Payment on delivery.

The Musical Morld,

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 31, 1875.

BALFE.

IN another page will be found an autograph (fac-simile) letter from Michael William Balfe, written in June, 1865, to his friend, J. W. Davison. The Concerto referred to is that by Beethoven, for pianoforte, No. 5 (E flat), which was performed at one of the Philharmonic Society's concerts, in the Hanover Square Rooms, on the Monday following the date of the letter, by Arabella Goddard, of whose talent Balfe was an enthusiastic admirer.

Programme Music.

T Cincinnati the subject of "programme music" is discussed with a gravity unknown in most other parts of the United States of America. At New York, et cetera, for example, a composition which comes under this designation would be criticised in a more or less flippant style, as we have observed in various notices of Liszt's "Orchestral Poems," &c. The advantage is plainly on the side of those who write philosophically upon musical matters at Cincinnati, especially when the "divine art" is engaged upon themes of the highest poetical significance. But lately, for instance, an oratorio, entitled The Plains, by a Californian musician, not inaptly named "Phænix"-a work apparently of lofty purpose and, if the antithesis be allowed, of unfathomable depth-has been performed at the earnest city abovenamed. Instead of treating it with the flippancy we have cited as a characteristic of the "Empire City," and as it is treated in various corners of New England (not including the capital of Massachusets, where J. S. Dwight, from a satin chair, lays down the law in matters musical, and, forgetful that he was once in England, contemplates, with anxious polyscopity and quasi-reverence, the most rhapsodical outpourings of the modern German school-if "school" it may be called), the Cincinnatian Aristarch goes to work seriously and dives deliberately to the bottom of Pi-Utahite ontosophy.

Let us, to make good our words, quote the remarks upon the oratorio by Mr Phœnix, which appeared in a recent issue of the *Cincinnati Intelligencer*. Thus does that sheet apostrophize *The Plains*:—

Did you ever hear that impressive oratorio, The Plains, by Mr Phenix, of California? For breadth, and depth, and grasp of subject, it is probably unequalled. The symphony opens upon the wide and boundless plains, in longitude 150 W., latitude 35·21'03" N., and about sixty miles from the west bank of Pitt River. These data are beautifully and clearly expressed by a long (topographically) drawn note from an E flat clarionet. The sandy nature of the soil, sparsely dotted with bunches of cactus, the extended view, flat and unbroken to the horizon, save by the rising smoke in the extreme verge, denoting the vicinity of a Pi-Utah village, are represented by the bass drum. A few notes on the piccolo call the attention to a solitary antelope, picking up mescal beans in the foreground. The sun, having an altitude of 30·27, blazes down upon the scene in indescribable majesty. Gradually the sounds roll forth in a song of rejoicing to the God of Day:—

"Of thy intensity
And great immensity
Now then we sing;
Behold in gratitude
Thee in this latitude
Curious thing"—

—which swells out into "Hey Jim along; Jim along Josey," then decrescendo, mas o menos, poco pocita, dies away and dries up. Suddenly we hear approaching a train from Pike county, consisting of seven families, with forty-six wagons, each drawn by thirteen oxen. Each family consists of a man in butter-nut-coloured clothing, driving the oxen; a wife in butter-nut-coloured clothing, in the wagon, holding a butter-nut baby, and seventeen butter-nut children running promiscuously about the establishment;—all are barefooted, dirty, and smell unpleasantly. These circumstances are expressed by pretty rapid fiddling for some minutes, winding up with a puff from the ophicleide, played by an intoxicated Teuton with an atrocious breath. It is impossible to misunderstand the description. Now rises o'er the plains, in mellifluous accents, the grand Pike county chorus:—

"Oh, we'll soon be thar
In the land of gold,
Through the forest old,
O'er the mounting cold,
With spirits bold—
Oh, we come, we come,
And we'll soon be thar,
Gee up, Bolly! whoo hup, whoo haw!"

The train now encamps. The unpacking of the kettles and mess-pans, the unyoking of the oxen, the gathering about the various camp-fires, the frizzing of the pork, are so clearly expressed by the music, that the most untutored savage could readily comprehend it. Indeed, so vivid and life-like was the representation, that a lady sitting near us involuntarily exclaimed aloud at a certain passage, "Thar, that pork's burning!;" and it was truly interesting to watch the gratified expression of her face when, through a few notes of the guitar, the pan was removed from the fire, and the blazing pork extinguished. This was followed by the beautiful aria, "Oh, marm, I want a pancake," followed by the touching recitation, "Shet up, or I will spank you," to which succeeds a grand crescendo movement, representing the flight of the child with the pancake, the pursuit of the mother, and the final arrest and summary punishment of the former, represented by rapid and successive strokes of castanet. The turning in for the night follows, and the deep and stentorious breathing of the encampment is well given by the bassoon; while the sufferings and trials of an unhappy father, with a fretful infant, are touchingly set forth by the cornet-a-piston.

Part Second.—The night attack of the Pi-Utahs; the fearful cries of the demoniac Indians; the shrieks of the females and children; the rapid and effective fire of the rifles; the stampede of the oxen; their recovery and final repulse; the Pi-Utahs being routed after a loss of thirty-six killed and wounded, while the Pikes lost but one scalp from an old fellow, who wore a wig and lost it in the scuffle;—are faithfully given, and excite intense interest in the



minds of hearers; the emotions of fear, admiration, and delight succeeding each other with painful rapidity. Then follows the chorus-

"Oh! we give them fits, The Injun Utahs, With our six-shooters-We give 'em particular fits."

The sun rises magnificently, (octave flute) Morning succeeds. -breakfast is eaten-in a rapid movement on three sharps; the oxen are caught and yoked up—with a small drum and triangle; the watches, purses, and other valuables of the conquered Pi-Utahs are stored away in a camp kettle, to a small movement on the piccolo, and the train moves on with the chorus-

"We'll soon be thar, Gee up, Bolly! Whoo hup! Whoop haw!"

The whole concludes with the grand choral hymn-"When we die we'll go to Benton, Whoop! whoo, haw! The greatest man that e'er land saw, Gee! Who this little airth was sent on, Whup! whoo haw! To tell a hawk from a hand saw, Gee!"

Plainer speaking about The Plains could hardly be expected of the plainest dealer, while weighing in the plainest language the plainest argument about the plainest subject. Moreover, to speak plainly, the argument is not only discussed in plain terms, which the plainest reader may plainly comprehend, but it is also, regarded from a serious point of view-as one would look upon a vast plain from the summit of a plain mountain—as, for example, from the top of the Herefordshire beacon on the great plain of Worcester, through which glides rapidly, but, to the eager would-be spectator, invisibly, the salmon-swarming Severn. This, to our plain thinking, as plain observers, is the plain way to examine a work of art which is plainly intended as such and nothing less.

Archimedes asked for an independent lever, with the aid of which he could compass things otherwise uncompassable. The Aristarchus of Cincinnati stands upon an independent plain, and can look with complacency as undisturbed as that of the imaginary man upon a precipice, who beheld with like complacency the battles and tempests on the plains belowhimself scatheless and unharmed. (See Lucretius on the Nature of Things.) Thus much for Phænix of California, composer of The Plains. "Gee! Otto Beard.

DR BRIDGE, organist of Manchester Cathedral, has been appointed deputy and successor to Mr Turle, organist of Westminster Abbey. Mr Turle has retired from the active duties of his office, after service extending over fifty-six years. He will retain the title of organist, but the duties and responsibilities of the position, which includes the selection and musical training of the choristers, devolve upon his successor. Dr Bridge was educated as chorister at Rochester Cathedral, under Mr John Hopkins, and subsequently studied under Sir John Goss. He was several years organist of Trinity Church, Windsor, and during the last six has been organist of Manchester Cathedral. He is Professor of Harmony at Owens College and Doctor of Music of the University of Oxford.

3 Heb Story.

People are talking a great deal more of the ex-Emperor Ferdinand of Austria now that he is dead than they ever did when he was alive. It is asserted that he possessed what the French term l'exprit du mot, and the papers cite the following instance:—One evening a distinguished pianist was presented to him at Prague. Taking undue advantage of the hospitality accorded him, the virtuoso executed a series of wearisome and difficult pieces. At length he stopped and wiped his forehead, from which the moisture was exuding at every pore. "I congratulate you sincerely," said the ex-Emperor; "I never saw any one perspire so freely."

Thillep Pitting.

OCCASIONAL NOTE,

MADAME CHRISTINE NILSSON, a few days after the matinée at which she sang for the benefit of the sufferers by the inundations in the south of France, having ascertained that the expenses attendant on the organization of the matinée would be covered by a sum of 1,500 francs, forwarded that sum, with characteristic generosity, to the committee in order that the full proceeds of the performance might reach the sufferers.

" Tohengrin" in Jondon, 1875.

(From the "Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News," July 24th, 1875.)

Wagnerites! your fond petitions Wagneries: your roll petitions
Were incessant for auditions
Of the "Music of the Future"—to cacophony akin:
Now rest ye, and be thankful!
Shed of grateful tears a tank full—
The R.I.O. and H.M.O. have each played Lohengrin.

How the note of preparation Stirr'd the pulses of the nation ! Rumour said the rival managers cared not pelf a pin. If Mapleson spent millions, Gye would certainly spend billions—
Each quite willing to be bankrupt for the sake of Lohengrin.

Twas said that Vianesi Was mightily onaisy, And searched the score for "tunes" all night, his hand upon his chin; While the conscientions Costa In a single month had lost a Stone of flesh, while constantly devouring Lohengrin.

The lessee of ancient Drury
Said, for his part, he was sure, he
Quite pitied those condemned to hear the Covent Garden din; While he of Covent Garden Said he didn't care a farden

For the weak attempt "across the way" to hash up Lohengrin. The managerial rivals. Both believers in " revivals," Found the new production answer;—for "the world" came flocking in,
Led, by fatal curiosity,

To endure the sad verbosity
Of the singers, "obbligati" to the band, in Lohengrin.

Henry, surnamed "the Fowler," Was a melancholy howler; was so tuneless, that to slay him were no sin; The Herald And Frederic and Ortrud

(If to say so wont be thought rude)

Though cheerful, brilliant beings, failed to brighten Lohengrin. At the one house Nicolini,

At the other Campanini, Heroically struggled (all in vain) encores to win; While Nilsson and Albani,

As Elsa, without bla(r)ney, Sang divinely! Else, a slender chance had Wagner's Lohengrin.

The Teutons (gifted creatures!) Decked with smiles their sandy features.

The soul-less Anglo-Saxons asked "When will the tune begin?"

They found, to their confusion,

No beginning nor conclusion!
So they came to the conclusion "to sleep out this Lohengrin."

Yet the music, though somniferous, Produced results auriferous; F. Gye and J. H. Mapleson sent Wagner "heaps of tin" (??)

Those impresarii wily Nudge each other's elbow slily; Andge each other's clow sury,
Each hugs his banker's pass-book; —and they whisper low, and grin.

Denry Dersee.

TURIN.—The Teatro Nazionale opened with Sig. Zandomeneghi's new opera of *Merope*, which, notwithstanding the fact that the composer was called on ten times, did not prove very successful.—The Teatro Alfieri was annonneed to open with Verdi's *Lombardi* and the ballet of Il Diavolo Verde.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

We promised in our last notice of Mr Gye's theatre a few general observations on the season. These will not occupy much space. From the 30th of March to the 17th of July—the opening night and the closing night—there were 83 performances, 50 conducted by Signor Vianesi and 24 by Signor Bevignani. Both conductors must have shown exemplary diligence, seeing that no less than 29 different operas were produced, and for the greater part in the most effective manner. We need not catalogue them, the record of the season having been given, from week to week, in sufficiently accurate detail. It is worth mentioning, however, that the largest number of representations (15) were devoted to three of Mozart's operas- Don Giovanni, Il Flauto Magico, and Le Nozze di Figaro; Meyerbeer (14) coming next, with Robert le Diable, the Huguenots, Dinorah, and L'Etoile du Nord; Verdi next (10), Rossini next (9); Auber, Donizetti, and Gounod each counting seven. So, notwithstanding the idea prevalent, here and there, that the advent of Wagner, with his Lohengrin, was to be at least the temporary annihilation of our old and cherished masterpieces, the reverse has proved to be the case. Mozart, Meyerbeer, Rossini, and Verdi are more than ever popular; and, though Mozart died in 1791, Rossini left off composing for the theatre in 1829, and the *Huguenots* was produced in 1836, they are likely to retain the popularity so well earned by their compositions, in which rhythmical melody, the essence and soul of music, everywhere

At the same time it cannot be denied that the first production of Lohengrin in this country, for which we are indebted to Mr Gye, has been the "curiosity" and in certain respects the prominent attraction of the season. No work has for a long period been talked about so much in every circle where operatic music is discussed, and no work has given rise to so many differences of opinion; some extolling it to the skies, as the ne plus ultra of lyricodramatic art; others accepting it cum grano, with reservations; while others have rejected it in toto, as embodying a theory which, if successfully carried out, must eventually do away altogether with opera, as it has been known and understood among us time out of mind. Our own opinion has been expressed on several occasions; and we may add (deferentially, for we are speaking of Wagner) that further experience has given us no cause to change or modify it. A large number of the public has accorded a hearty welcome to Lohengrin, and this fact must not be over-looked. Another fact, however, must equally be borne in mind. Lohengrin, as the author of the "Art-work of the Future" himself implies, is not the expression of his last word: the works that follow it—Tristan und Isolde, with Rheingold, the Trilogy of the Nibelungen, and, lastly, Percival (or "Parcival"), which, looming in the distance, is already disturbing the contemplative master's brain-are destined to carry out his theory to the utmost, and to make or mar it, in the eyes of those competent to judge and able to compete argumentatively with such an intellectual giant in polemics. Enough that eight performances were given by Mr Gye, to whom the highest credit is due for the lavish splendour with which the opera was placed on the stage; as to Mdlle Emma Albani, for her charming impersonation of Elsa, which advanced her several steps in public opinion; and to Signor Vianesi for the pains he took in getting up the performance, and-supported by a thoroughly competent orchestra, with Mr Carrodus, our foremost English violinist, at the head-the ability with which he

There is little more to add. That Madame Adelina Patti, on legitimate grounds, enjoys more than ever the favour of the public is an unquestionable fact; how Mdlle Albani has progressed, and is progressing, has been recorded on more than one occasion, as also how M. Faure maintains his position as the first dramatic barytone bass of the period. Upon the rest of the company-among whom were some of the long-tried Covent Garden veterans, together with new-comers, like the tenors, Signors de Sanctis and Carpi—it is unnecessary to dwell. We must except, nevertheless, Mdlle D'Angeri, who, in her first impersonation of Leonora (Fidelio), as a young and rising artist, did herself infinite credit; and Mdlle Bianchi, who, as Susanna, in the Nozze di Figaro, showed how gradually and surely she is advancing, and who at the last representation of Mozart's comic masterpiece (if

serenade, "Deh! vieni non tardar," the encomiums bestowed upon her on a previous occasion. Mdlle Zaré Thalberg, Mr Gye's youngest artist, although she has only appeared in three characters, may be looked upon as his most promising recent acquisition. In each part she has made a highly favourable impression.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA.

The six "extra nights," which have brought the season at this heatre to a close, consisted exclusively of "repetitions." There was, nevertheless, a feature in the cast of the Huguenots which gave to that justly-renowned work, the masterpiece of its composer, a new and special interest. We refer to the Valentine of Madame Christine Nilsson, who, like her contemporary, Madame Adelina Patti, and with equally good reason, seems determined to show that her genius is not confined to any particular line of opera, that high genius is not connect to any paracular line of opera, that high tragedy is as much in her sphere as sentimental drama, and that she can play Meyerbeer's Valentine just as well as she can play the Mignon of Ambroise Thomas, or the Margaret of Gounod. The result has twice proved that she had not over-estimated her capacity. Madame Nilsson's Valentine is one of the most admirable performances witnessed of late years on the operatic boards. It is not only poetical in conception and elaborately wrought out, but-a charm in itself when such an engaging individuality as that of Madame Nilsson is in question-entirely original. In this, as in every other character she has essayed, the Swedish songstress thinks for herself and takes no predecessor for a model. her voice, owing to its extensive compass and equality of tone, lends itself to every requirement necessary for the adequate execution of music which, like all that Meyerbeer has written, though in many parts difficult, is within easy reach of one who, possessed of adequate physical means, has, through careful study, made herself mistress of her art, may be readily believed. Indeed, her singing throughout was everything that could be wished. Meyerbeer himself would have been satisfied, and that is saying no little. But what now interests most those amateurs who watch the career of this accomplished lady is the extraordinary progress she has of recent years been making in the histrionic department of her art. This was never more apparent than in the great scenes with Marcel (Signor Castlemary), and Raoul de Nangis (Signor Campanini). Both exemplified the highest dramatic power; and, without entering into minute details, we may conscientiously affirm that a greater effect has never been produced than that created by the performance of Madame Nilsson in the duet following the Benediction des Poignards. Rarely has applause more enthusiastic and genuine been extorted from a critical audience. The Wagnerists, by the way, have done some good service. During this nerists, by the way, have done some good service. During this particular scene which Wagner, in his Oper und Drama, extols so highly, as having, by its poetic suggestiveness, happily influenced Meyerbeer, the "upper circles" hushed down every attempt at demonstrative manifestations; but, when the curtain fell, they joined unanimously and vociferously in the applause that came from every part of the house-applause as fairly won as any in our remembrance.

Lucrezia Borgia was chosen for the benefit of Mdlle Tietjens; and, hackneyed as the opera is, it has rarely been heard with more eager satisfaction. We all know with what dignity and tragic power Mille Tietjens represents the character of the Duchess of Ferrara, and how she executes the music. She was never grander than on Tuesday night; and, perhaps, owing to the general rumour that she is about to leave us for a temporary artistic sojourn in the United States of America, never greeted with heartier good will. Whatever she did was applauded with a warmth, the just right of one who is not only a great artist, but has served the public faithfully and long. On such an occasion the frequent recalls," followed by bouquets, wreaths, &c., without number, could not be regarded with the indifference now generally applied to them. Here was an artist who (like her precursor, Grisi) merited, under the circumstances, greetings of all kinds-greetings the more genuine and unanimous, all the more appropriate. No one who appreciates lyric and dramatic art in its highest significance can do otherwise than look forward with anxiety to the return of There'se Tietjens, who since 1858, when she first appeared, as Valentine (in the *Hugnenots*) at Her Majesty's theatre—Mr Lum-"comic" it may be entitled) more than justified, in the beautiful | ley's latest but not least brilliant star—has so steadily maintained

her position among the foremost singers on the operatic stage. And, indeed, the cordial reception she met with at the performance

we refer to placed this beyond a doubt.

The season came to an end on Saturday night, with the ninth performance of Lohengrin. About this opera enough has been said for the present; yet we cannot leave it without a word in acknowledgment of the highly effective way in which it has been brought out by Mr Mapleson, and the finished execution of the very trying music for which the public is indebted to Sir Michael Costa and his admirable orchestra. Lohengrin was played eight times at Covent Garden and nine times at Drury Lane; so that Wagner has been more hospitably received in London than he was in Paris, when, some years ago, his Tannhäuser obtained a (qualified) hearing. Next year, both at Covent Garden and Drury Lane (if not at the promised new Opera House, for which the first stone has yet to be laid), Tannhäuser may be expected; unless one of the managers has the courage to venture upon Tristan und Isolde.

BOX 80.

ACT I.

"La ci darem" encored. Miss Zaré showered with bouquets. Some original threw a large tyre to her, made of what looked like wedding-cake sugar. Donna Elvira's songs and the quartet very well sung, but not in the least applauded by the ignorant and stupid public, who only seem to heed the tunes they know.

ACT II.

"Batti, batti" encored—or, rather, repeated spontaneously—and charmingly sung by that pretty little Zerlina. More bouquets! One box seemed to contain an inexhaustible supply. The public redeemed its character by encoring the trio, "Protegge il giusto cielo"—most splendidly sung—but oh! Mozart ought to have a bouquet too!—a very rising young composer!

ACT III.

Trio—very well sung by the clever maestro. "Deh vieni" encored; ditto "Vedrai carino," which brought forth more bouquets and a huge white crown. We were obliged to leave after the glorious sestet. To sum up, it went very well all round. I was delighted. Mille grazie! G. R

CHRISTINE NILSSON'S VALENTINE.

(From the " Observer.")

The most interesting event of the week was the first appearance this season of Madame Christine Nilsson, as Valentine in Les Huguenots. It will be remembered that her single performance in that character in the season of 1874 was attended with brilliant success. On Monday last her success was yet more striking, and clearly established the fact that, were she disposed to abandon the lighter rôles with which her name is chiefly connected, she has all the requisites for a prima donna dramatica of the first rank. For so finished a singer, with a voice whose compass extends, in each direction, far beyond the musical requirements of the part, Valentine possesses no vocal difficulties whatever. For the dramatic rendering she has every requisite. Valentine is a young and high-born lady, and the personal appearance and graceful carriage of Madame Christine Nilsson are eminently suitable to the character. From a dramatic point of view her impersonation was admirable. Her command of pathos-already exemplified in her impersonations of Margherita, Mignon, Ophelia, and other characters-was never more powerfully manifested than in her rendering of Valentine; and her ability to depict the highest tragic emotions was no less con-In the great scene with Raoul her acting was so terrible in its reality that the illusion was complete, and the breathless attention paid by the audience showed how entirely she had enlisted their sympathies. Her attitudes and gestures in the closing passages of this scene were sometimes statuesque, sometimes impetuous-always spontaneous and graceful; and when the curtain descended the audience cheered her with enthusiasm, and called her again and again before the curtain, to receive her well-earned tributes

ROME.

(From a Correspondent.)

The Politeama closed a short time since with Il Conte Verde, by Sig. Libani, who is now engaged on a new work, Sardanapalo, the libretto of which is furnished by M. D'Ormeville. The theatre has opened again under new management, for the summer season, the great attraction being the grand Ballet of Pietro Micca, which proved highly successful at Milan some months since. The operas, given with inefficient orchestra and chorus, have been Linda di Chamouni, Rossini's Turco in Italia, and Donizetti's Esiliati in Siberia. A new opera, Don Saverio, by a young composer of the name of Alberini, will be produced ere long. -The Municipality have reduced the grant for the Carnival-Lent season at the Teatro Apollo to a hundred thousand francs.—The nomination of Sig. Broglio to the presidentship of the St Cecilia Academy has already produced good fruit. That gentleman has obtained from Sig. Bonglis, the Minister, several things for which the Academy had long asked in vain. These include firstly: a local habitation; secondly, the promise of a yearly subsidy of ten thousand francs; and, lastly, the use of the splendid musical library which once belonged to Sig. Orsini, and which was purchased by the Minister of Public Instruction.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

The directors of this new resort of pleasure-seekers show a laudable determination that the success of their gigantic enterprise shall not be hindered by want of attention to the varied taste of the general public. Outdoor amusements vie with artistic attractions within the Palace walls to tempt the holiday-maker; and given a moderately bright day, with a few gleams of sunshine, to embellish the smiling panorama that lies spread out beneath the terraces surrounding the edifice—the result of a visit to Muswell Hill can hardly be less than enjoyment. A series of Saturday afternoon concerts, where well-known artists have taken part in classical and interesting programmes, have been supplemented by "Summer Evening Promenade Concerts," which promise to be a great pecuniary success. The second of these entertainments, on Saturday last, attracted an enormous crowd: during the performance there was barely standing-room in the vast hall, that has not been lately used for the concerts. The inevitable rustle of an unseated multitude somewhat detracted from the effect produced by the lady vocalists (Miss Rose Hersee and Miss Clelland), who gave various Irish and other ballads (the "Minstrel Boy, "Kate Kearney," &c.) with appropriate expression; but the organ-like tones of Signor Foli rose above the conflicting murmurs, penetrating to the farthest recesses of the building, and rousing the audience to an enthusiasm which, after Diehl's popular song, "The Mariner," found vent not only in a vociferous encore, but in the excited waving of hats, handkerchiefs, etc. That the hall is decidedly unfavourable for voices that cannot lay claim to grandeur was evident even on the opening day, when the only singer heard to advantage was Mdlle Tietjens. For great orchestral effects the building is admirable; and, as ponderous sounds are best calculated to impress great crowds, music on a giant scale will satisfy most on occasions such as this. The orchestra was admirable. The "British Army Quadrille" was executed in a manner that Jullien himself would have approved, and showed that Mr Weist Hill, who, by his direction of the great works lately given, has won himself a place in the front rank of the conductors of the day, is artist enough to devote his powers as much to the lesser as to the greater work that falls to his share. Beneath a calmness of manner that is an invaluable power in a leader, Mr Weist Hill hides far more enthusiasm than those demonstrative ones who cannot rest unless all-public as well as orchestra-remark their zeal. It is but a poor power that vents itself in effervescence. The height of true musical feeling generates calmness; and its existence is not shown by outward demonstration, but is reflected in its fruits. That the Alexandra Palace band will rank among the first is a fact to be doubted by none after a few hearings, and this in itself is no mean promise for the future of the building.

Venice.—Verdi's Requiem has been performed here, with extraordinary success. The first three performances brought in large receipts. A foreigner presented Sig. Faccio, who conducted, with an elegant massive silver garland.

DR HANSLICK ON THE GRAND OPERAHOUSE, PARIS.

(Continued from page 505.)
of comfort, the auditorium is near

In the way of comfort the auditorium is nearly perfection. The fauteuils are wide; the rows of seats have plenty of space between them; and access to all the places is easy. carpet covers the entire flooring, renders inaudible the footsteps of those who are continually coming or going, and gives the parquet the appearance of an elegant saloon. The ventilation is not for a moment to be compared with the system (which cannot be too highly praised) adopted in the Vienna Operahouse. In the midst of so much comfort and luxury, there are two evils in the Paris Operahouse which are inexplicable. These are the cloak-room and the refreshment-room. The ideal of a cloak-room has never yet been realized. Crowding, draughts, and confusion, seem to be the sponsorial gifts bestowed by Fate upon all such institutions, even in the dearest theatre in the world-namely, the Italian Operahouse, London. The most spacious and best sheltered cloak-room in existence is that of which the Vienna Operahouse boasts. In Paris the cloak-rooms for the pit consist of three or four small compartments, at the counters of which only three gentlemen can stand and be served at one time. Still more frightful-nay, when compared to the brilliant foyer next to it, almost ghostly—is the refreshment-room; a melancholy and badly lighted passage, with naked grey walls, and scarcely any fittings. The conviction that such a room, out of place anywhere save in old barracks or a prison, is only provisional, forces itself involuntarily upon one. This, indeed, is the fact. Nothing but money is wanting to carry out the original elegant design. There is little hope, however, of the hole being improved for a considerable period, though it ought not to have been tolerated, especially in Paris, for a single week.

The signal for the rising of the curtain, the three heavy blows on a wooden block, is heard—certainly an antediluvian substi-tute for the sound of the bell; but, on account of a credible tradition connected with it, still retained all over France. three blows, and the date, 1669, prominently displayed in large figures over the stage, are—if we exclude the busts of a few composers—all that reminds us of the two hundred years that the Académie Nationale de Musique has been in existence. The curtain—a "curtain" in the strict acceptation of the term, purple, with a white lace border, without any figures—goes up. The opera given is Les Huguenots. We observe with satisfaction that the fiddle-bows of the violinists never come between our eyes and the stage, and that the instruments do not drown the voices of the singers; the orchestra lies lower than ours: this is right. The acoustic qualities of the house are good, if not so excellent as in the house which was burnt down in the Rue Le Pelletier, and which was mostly constructed of wood. The new house is more favourable to the singers than to the instrumentalists, from whom we should have expected more vigour and brilliancy. The defect is attributable, not to the more than usually low level of the orchestra, but to its numbers, which are insufficient for so large a space. With ten or fifteen more violins the defect would be remedied. And now about the performance itself. We are bound to state openly and fearlessly that the musical execution at the new Operahouse is not in any way comparable to the magnificence and grandeur of the building. The singing birds are not worth such a bejewelled and golden cage. On the stage, nearly all that I considered excellent, and of any value, was the scenery, costumes, ballets, and processions. With the exception of one or two, the singers individually can lay no claim to be considered first-class artists, worthy of the Grand Paris Operahouse; which, however, has the right, and is bound to have the very best of everything. Two facts, unreservedly communicated to me, prove, more forcibly than any description of mine could the musical deterioration of the famous institution. Gounod will not allow his Polyeucte, and Verdi will not allow his Aida to be played there as long as the company is constituted as at present. Villaret, the tenor, sang the part of Raoul—Villaret, an aged and corpulent cad (Philieter), all whose mimic power consists in a permanent stupidly-knowing smile, and all whose action is restricted to two stereotyped movements of the arms. His voice is still strong, though no longer mellow nor fresh. He never knew anything about the art of singing; and the first romance ("Plus blanche"), which must not be screamed, is beyond

him. In a character such as that of Raoul his mere appearance produces a comical impression. I could not help continually glancing over to Roger, who was in the pit, contemplating this Raoul with a truly elegiac mien. What must have been going on in the breast of so clever and amiable an artist, who, in the same character, has touched and entranced every heart! Gabriele Krauss sang the music of Valentine in the hollow tremulous voice which we know so well in Vienna. A good musician, intelligent, and experienced as she is, she gets through the part respectably, without, however, once carrying away her audience. To speak truth, the public, who, as a rule, leave the claque to do the applause, though they throw off their reserve in the case of their favourites, such as Faure, Miolan, and some others, assumed a rather passive attitude towards her. Even the Parisian critics, usually so good natured, especially for Mdlle Krauss, indulged in anxiously palliative terms about her Valentine. For Paris, this lady's principal merit is, there can be no doubt, the correctness and certainty with which she speaks French. Mad. Miolan-Carvalho, a lady between forty and fifty, with well preserved remains of beauty and voice, was the Queen. She sings also the characters of Gretchen, Julia, and Ophelia, and was thus a perfect godsend when she winged her flight from the Opéra-Comique to the Grand Opera. She is an admirable adept in husbanding her resources; and if her efforts want the depth and power of passion, they enlist the sympathies of the public by the charm of sober and elegant art. The Parisians evince by the charm of sober and elegant art. The Parisians evince a feeling of pious and tender regard for their artists; and the recollection of Mad. Miolan in her prime acts for them as a sounding-board, which strengthens her voice of to-day. In Paris more particularly, therefore, the respect manifested for this fair artist is intelligible and justifiable.

(To be continued).

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The annual prize concert took place at St James's Hall, on Wednesday morning, July 21st. The conductor was Mr Walter Macfarren, and the principal violins M. Sainton and Mr F. Amor. We subjoin the programme:—

Prelude and Fugue in B flat (organ, Mr Rose)—Schumann; Trio, "Soave se il vento" (Cosi fan tutte) (Miss Amy Aylward, Miss M. J. Williams, and Mr Boutenop)—Mozart; Lieder ohne Wörte, Book 4 (No. 1, in A flat, No. 3, in F, No. 4, in A minor—Volkslied), pianoforte (Miss Edridge)—Mendelssohn; Scena, "Softly sighs" (Der Freischätz) (Miss Larkcom)—Weber; Concerto, in A (last movement) (Mr Dear)—Greig; Aria, "Lascia amor" (Orlando) (Mr Wadmore)—Handel; Concerto, in D minor, No. 9 (Adagio), violin (Mdlle Gabrielle Vaillant)—Spohr; Quintet and Chorus, "My heart from its terror reposes" (Robin Hood) (Miss Marian Williams, Miss Shaboe, Mr Howells, Mr Nichols, and Mr Robert George)—G. A. Macfarren; Concerto, in A minor (first movement), pianoforte (Miss Kate Steel)—Schumann; Song (Miss Mary Davies, Welsh Choral Union scholar); Symphony in E flat, MS. (first movement)—(the Lucas Medal is awarded for the composition of this movement)—A. H. Jackson, student; Motet for Female Voices, "Surrexit Pastor" (solos, Miss Marie Duval, Miss Thekla Fischer, Miss Annie Butterworth, and Miss Bolingbroke)—Mendelssohn; Caprice in E. Q. D. 22, pianoforte (Miss Alice Curtis, Potter Exhibitioner)—W. Sterndale Bennett; Song, "Adelaida" (Mr Henry Guy, accompanied on the pianoforte by Miss Pamphilon)—Beethoven; Rondo Piacevole, in E. Op. 25, pianoforte (Miss Abostro), W. Sterndale Bennett; Scena, (Fridolin) (Miss Jessie Jones)—Randegger; Prelude and Fugue, in E. minor (Op. 35, No. 1), pianoforte (Miss Amy Turner-Burnett)—Mendelssohn; Trio, "Proteggi il giusto cielo" (Don Giovanni) (Miss Larkcom, Westmorland scholar, Miss Kate Brand, and Mr Breeden)—Mozart; Concertstuck, pianoforte (Mr F. W. W. Bampfylde)—Weber; Aria, "Di tanti palpiti" (Tancredi) (Miss Bolingbroke, Parepa Rosa scholar)—Rossini; Chorus, with solos, "Heaven and earth" (Athalie) (solos, Miss Edouard, Miss Marie Duval, and Miss Reimar)—Mendelssohn; "God save the Queen."

PRIZE LIST, 1875.

LUCAS SILVER MEDAL.—From a design by T. Woolner, R.A. In memory of Charles Lucas, (Student, Professor, Conductor, and Principal), for the composition of the first movement of a Symphony. Examiners.—H. C. Banister, W. Dorrell, H. C. Lunn, Walter Macfarren, A. Sullivan, and the Principal.—ARTHUR HERBERT JACKSON.

PAREPA-ROSA GOLD MEDAL. - In memory of Euphrosyne Parepa-PAREA-ROSA GOLD MEDAL.—In memory of Euphrosyne Parepa-Rosa (endowed by Carl Rosa), for the singing of pieces selected by the Committee. *Examiners*.—G. Benson, F. R. Cox, Ettore Fiori, A. Gilardoni, Manuel Garcia, A. Randegger, Carl Rosa, T. A. Wall-worth, and the Principal.—John Lofting Wadmore.

STERNDALE BENNETT PRIZE.—(Purse of Ten Guineas), in memory of Sir William Sterndale Bennett, Mus. D., M.A., D.C.L. (Student, of Sir William Steindard Belinder, Mrs. B., M.A., B.C. L. (Stadelle, Professor, and Principal), for the playing of a composition by Sir W. Sterndale Bennett, selected by the Committee. Examiners.—H. R. Eyers, W. H. Holmes, F. B. Jewson, S. Kemp, Walter Macfarren, Arthur O'Leary, Brinley Richards, Harold Thomas, Frederick Westlake, T. Wingham, and the Principal.—FANNY BOXELL. Highly

Commended, ANNIE JANE DOORLY.

CERTIFICATES OF MERIT.—The highest honour attainable at this Examination, awarded only to Students who have previously received

Examination, awarded only to Students who have previously received Silver Medals.—Amy Turner-Burnett (pianoforte), Silver Medal, 1873; Eliza J. Hopkins (pianoforte), Silver Medal, 1874; Annie J. Martin (pianoforte), Silver Medal, 1874; Henry Guy (singing), Silver Medal, 1872; Walter Fitton (pianoforte), Silver Medal, 1872; Silver Medal, 1874; Henry Guy (singing), Silver Medal, 1874; Mice Larkcom (singing); Alice Curtis (pianoforte), Bronze Medal, 1874; Edith Brand (pianoforte), Bronze Medal, 1874; Helen Pamphilon (pianoforte), Bronze Medal, 1874; Gabrielle Vaillant (violin), Bronze Medal, 1874; Eugène Boutènop (singing), Bronze Medal, 1874; John L. Wadmore (singing), Bronze Medal, 1874; John L. Wadmore (singing), Bronze Medal, 1874; Bronze Medal, Bronze Medal, 1874; Eugène Boutènop (singing), Bronze Medal, 1874; Bronze Medal, Bronze Medal, 1874.

Emma Reimar (singing); Marian Williams (singing); Mary Jane Williams (singing); Katie Steele (pianoforte); Ethel Goold (pianoforte); Alice Borton (pianoforte); Annie Turner (pianoforte); Clara Cooper (pianoforte); Marion Green (pianoforte); Nancy Evans (pianoforte); Isabel Thurgood (pianoforte); Ada Brand (violin); Frances Thomas (clarionet); George Hooper (harmony); Moses Ap Herbert (singing); Arthur H. Jackson (pianoforte); Frederick Corder (pianoforte); Edward Morton (pianoforte); Tobias Matthay (pianoforte); Lindsay Deas (pianoforte); Henry R. Rose (Organ).

Books.—Frances Thomas (harmony); Amy Aylward (singing); Lita Farrier (singing); Thekla Fischer (singing); Catharine Shaboe (singing); Mary Butterworth (organ); Robert George (singing); Frederick Nichols (singing).

Highly Commended, Jessie Jones (singing), Silver Medal, 1873; Rhoda Barkley, Silver Medal, 1872; Alice Arnold (singing); Mary Boole (pianoforte), Bronze Medal, 1874; Janie Borrough (pianoforte), Bronze Medal, 1874; Clara Daniel (pianoforte), Bronze Medal 1874; Ellen Edridge (pianoforte), Bronze Medal, 1874; Ellen Holmes (pianoforte), Bronze Medal, 1873; Julia Chute (pianoforte); Maria Combs (pianoforte), Bronze Medal, 1873; Julia Chute (pianoforte); Maria Combs (pianoforte), Frany Boxell (pianoforte); Annie J. Doorly (pianoforte); Constance Harper (pianoforte); Emily Banks (pianoforte); Annie Smith (pianoforte); Annie Frost (pianoforte); Annie Smith (organ); Charlton T. Speer (pianoforte and organ), Bronze Medal, 1874; George Hooper (pianoforte); Frank Manly (pianoforte); George Ryle (pianoforte); George Ryle (pianoforte); Sarah Geary (singing); Elise Lassouquere (singing); Marie Pascoe-Pearce (singing);

COMMENDED.—Amelia Featherby (singing); Sarah Geary (singing); Elise Lassouquere (singing); Marie Pascoe-Pearce (singing); Hannah Roby (singing); Alice Chapman (pianoforte); Ella Sauvan (pianoforte); Kate Lyons (pianoforte); Margaret Morgan (pianoforte); Ada Lampard (violin); George Smith (pianoforte); Augustus Tozer (organ); Telisean Lampard (violin); George Smith (pianoforte); Augustus Tozer (organ); Telisean Lampard (violin); George Smith (pianoforte); Augustus Tozer (organ); Telisean Lampard (violin); George Smith (pianoforte); Augustus Tozer (organ); Telisean Lampard (violin); George Smith (pianoforte); Augustus Tozer (organ); Telisean Lampard (violin); George Smith (pianoforte); Augustus Tozer (organ); Telisean Lampard (violin); George Smith (pianoforte); Augustus Tozer (organ); Telisean Lampard (violin); George Smith (pianoforte); Augustus Tozer (organ); Telisean Lampard (violin); George Smith (pianoforte); Augustus Tozer (organ); George Smith (pianoforte); George Smith (pianoforte); Augustus Tozer (organ); George Smith (pianoforte); George Smith (pianofo

(organ); Taliesan James (harp).
PRIZE VIOLIN Bow (made and presented to the Institution by Mr

By Order.

PRIZE VIOLIN Bow (made and presented to the Institution by Mr James Tubbs, of Wardour Street).—Reginald Luke.

EXAMINERS.—Harmony—H. C. Banister, H. C. Lunn, C. Steggall, Mus. D., A. S. Sullivan, and the Principal; Singing—G. Benson, F. R. Cox, Ettore Fiori, Manuel Garcia, A. Randegger, and T. A. Wallworth; Pianoforte—H. R. Eyers, W. H. Holmes, F. B. Jewson, S. Kemp, Walter Macfarren, Arthur O'Leary, Harold Thomas, Frederick Westlake, and T. Wingham; Orchestral Instruments—F. J. Amor, Walter Pettit, F. Ralph, and P. Sainton; Organ—Sir J. Goss and the Principal.

POTTER EXHIBITIONER—Alice Curtis. WESTMORLAND SCHOLAR—Agnes Larkcom. STERNDALE BENNETT SCHOLAR—Charlton T. Speer. Welsh Choral Union Scholar-Mary Davies. Parepa-Rosa

SCHOLAR-Annie E. Butterworth.

JOHN GILL, Secretary.

L'ETOILE, PATTI, FAURE, &c. (To the Editor of the "Musical World,")

SIR,-Last night's performance of the Etoile du Nord was an excellent one in all respects. Patti was in splendid voice, as always, and really surpassed herself. The part of Caterina I have long since considered one of her very best. Faure sang, acted, and looked to perfection in the character of Pietro. No wonder Caterina went perfection in the character of riero. No wonder Caterina went mad—poor girl!—in losing such a handsome lover. Naudin, as Danilowitz, completed the triumvirate of consummate artists, and was particularly good in the song of the "cakes." Ciampi, as Gritzenko, was as gravely comic and turbulently elongated as usual. Smeroschi, who played Prascovia with vivacity, has much usual. Smeroschi, who played Prascovia with vivacity, has much improved in her singing since last year. It is a pity that her voice is not fuller. The house was well attended, the Prince of Wales being among the andience. Patti, Faure, and Naudin were recalled at the end of each act, but did not take any mark of approbation from the public as an encore. Patti had as many as a dozen bouquets thrown to her; but flowers are plentiful and cheap just now .- I am, Mr Editor, yours truly, July 14th.

WAIFS.

Mr Charles F. Hargitt has just completed a three act opera, for Mr Carl Rosa's company. The libretto is founded on an English historical subject.

Mdme Trebelli-Bettini, Herr Behrens, M. Albert (violoncello), and Mr John Cheshire (solo harp), commence a tour in Sweden and

Norway, early this month.

On the 7th August Mdlle D'Anka and Mdlle Pauline Rita will play in La Fille de Madame Angot at the Opera Comique, under the management of Mr C. Morton.

Mr J. L. Toole has returned to England from his American trip, and is entering on a round of provincial engagements. He will re appear in London on the 8th of November.

The city of Dublin police force have just formed a military band, under the direction of an Italian band master. It bids fair, from all accounts, to rival in excellence the band of the Irish Constabulary.

Professor Glover's cantata, St Patrick at Tara, is to be given at the O'Connell Centenary concert, to be given in the Exhibition Palace, Dublin, August 7th. Madame Gedge is engaged to sing the prin-

cipal soprano part.
On the withdrawal of Mr and Mrs Billington from the Globe, Mdlle Beatrice will, on the 16th August, produce Mr Campbell Clarke's clever adaptation of Dumas's Monsieur Alphonse (Love and Honour). The play will be of special interest, being new to London.
Miss Antoinette Sterling, née dans l'étât de New York—a commencé

sans Antometre Stering, nee dans I etatde New York—a commence ses études de chant Italien à New York, 1862, sous la direction du Maestro Pedro de Abella—et sous ce maitre elle a débuté dans les concerts à New York. Après le depart de son maitre elle est partie pour l'Europe. Aussi a't elle continué ses études en Allemagne.— Alphonse R.

Chapty, &c. (Extract from a letter).—Chapty sang beautifully, and, being encored in the "Muletier et Pedro" song, in the "Lesson scene," repeated it. This was the only thing encored. Her valse from Mireille was perfection (as usual, I suppose). I heard Tietjens in the next box to us, very enthusiastic about her. I had no notion

in the next box to us, very enthusiastic about her. I had no notion that Chapuy sang so well.—A. C.

The sudden death last year, in Paris, of Mr Mark Smith, the popular American actor, left his family almost wholly dependent on the professional earnings of his daughter—a very young lady—who has during the past three years been studying with Signor San Giovanni, and singing in Italian operatic companies, under the nom de théatre of Mdlle Marco. Mdlle Marco has recently been engaged for the Imperial Italian Opera, St Petersburgh, at a commencing salary of 4.000 francs per month.

salary of 4,000 francs per mouth.

With reference to the rumour that the gatherings of the Charity Children at St Paul's are to be discontinued, we may state that such is by no means the desire of the Society of Patrons; but the public have not contributed sufficient funds to cover the necessary expenses. We sincerely hope that this time-honoured and interesting festival will not be allowed to fall through for want of the necessary public support. It can only need be known that the society is in want of funds to insure liberal contributions.—City Press.

The London correspondent of the Western Daily Mercury says

that all who have heard him play, and have had opportunity of judging his power as a creative musician, speak in terms of highest praise of Mr George F. Hatton, son of J. L. Hatton, the composer. G. F. Hatton has been studying at the Leipzig Conservatorium, and is now sojourning in Italy. No better means could be adopted for maturing that which looks like inventive genius than the curriculum of study thus prepared for Hatton, junior.—Hornet.

ARCHES COURT (Before Sir R. Phillimore, Dean of Arches).—
WYNDHAM P. COLE.—This was a suit by the Vicar of Yeovil against
the organist, for playing on the organ a voluntary, both before and
after the service. The ease was reported on a former occasion, and
stood over for a statement of facts to be agreed upon. The agreement had not been carried out. Dr Deane, Q.C., and Mr B. Shaw,
prayed the Court to admit the articles; and the latter said his client
was willing to leave the matter to the decision of the bishop, but
the other side objected. The Dean of Arches admitted the articles,
and expressed a hope that the bishop, by consent of both sides,
would decide the question.

St James's Hall is now occupied by the Messrs Hamilton, whose panoramic illustrations of the most notable and picturesque places in various parts of the globe have long constituted a popular exhibition. The present series of views is specially illustrative of a voyage across the Atlantic and a tour through the United States, with the social as well as the scenic peculiarities of America graphically delineated. These views, painted on a large scale, attain in several instances a very high degree of artistic excellence, and some ingenious dioramic and mechanical effects are introduced to give completeness to the illusion. A prominent feature of the entertainment is the descriptive commentary furnished by Mr A. Matthison, who, besides the advantage of being personally acquainted with the places depicted, has the additional valuable qualifications of being a graceful lyrical writer, a tuneful composer, and a well-trained vocalist. Thus, singing his own songs, and telling, with good effect, an appropriate story, Mr Matthison at once enlightens and enlivens his auditory, and the 120 minutes which suffice to show the spectators nearly everything worth seeing on a trip from Euston Square to New Orleans and back again, have not a dull moment among them. The entertainment, replete with interest and instruction, well merits attention. - Daily Telegraph.

Marchetti's new opera, Ruy Blas, was given on Friday week, at the Bijou Theatre, in the Royal Albert Hall by some amateur vocalists. The ladies and gentlemen—writes the Morning Post—to whom the principal parts were entrusted, performed their tasks with ability both in singing and acting. It may further be asserted that some of them showed talent of a high character, and that many professional artists might envy the graceful and intelligent acting of Miss Shaw and Miss Wickam. The tenor, Mr Harvey, is a very good singer as well as an efficient actor. Major Carpenter, Major Loughman, Captain Coghill, and Mr Dundas Gardiner undertook the other principal parts; whilst Mrs Shaw, who acted the character of a disagreeable old duchess, did so with much humour. The chorus never once sang out of tune, and every one took his or her part in the dramatic action. Thus, with intelligence and zeal, an ensemble was reached which was altogether excellent. Mr Shake-spear did excellent service at the pianoforte, and Signor Visetti at the harmonium. Signor Arditi conducted. Mr A. Harris officiated as stage manager. The opera was splendidly put upon the stage, thanks to Major Carpenter. The performers at the conclusion of the opera, retaining their costumes, joined the guests at supper, and later took part in the ball with which the evening terminated. S. M.

SIR Moses Montepiner Testimonial Fund.—The concert in connection with the above object was given, at Willis's Rooms, on the 15th inst., under the direction of the "Orpheus Orchestral Society," an association of upwards of forty non-professional instrumentalists. They form a band complete in every department, and are ably conducted by Mr George Ashmead, himself an amateur musician of considerable talent. Von Suppé's Overture to Peet and Peasant, Wallace's Overture to Maritana, a selection from Gounod's Faust, a movement from Beethoven's Symphony in D, and Mozart's Figuro, were performed, with an amount of unity and vigour that would have reflected credit upon any orchestra, and which, happily, displayed a condition of musical culture highly creditable to the amateur musicians of this country. Mr L Beddome, Mr Gates, Mr Graham Brown, Dr W. H. Stone, and Mr Lewis, deserve special mention for excellence on their respective instruments—the clarionet, oboe, flute, bassoon, and violoncello. The vocalist was Mdme Estelle Emrick, who sang, with a rich contralto voice and cultivated taste, Charles Salaman's "Lov'd One," Lover's "What will you do, love?" and Rossini's "Una voce poco fà." Mr Salaman presided at the pianoforte. The "fancy bazaar" should have ended before the concert began. It was an error of judgment to combine them. The noisy conversation at the end of the concert room, which not only disturbed the music, but the temper of the listeners, was not occasioned by ill-breeding—which is too frequently observable at musical parties—but was the inevitable consequence of circumstances which, out of respect for the musicians engaged, and the dignity of the art of which they are the exponents, should not have been allowed,—An Occasional Correspondents, should not have been allowed,—An Occasional Correspondents.

Mr Arthur Sullivan's cantata, David and Jonathan, will not be ready in time for the next Norwich Festival. Although not seriously indisposed, Mr Sullivan is ordered by his medical advisers to refrain for the present from such exertion as would be necessary for the completion of so important a work as the projected cantata.

GAIETY THEATRE.—A short season of operas in English, will follow the French opera season at this theatre, commencing this day, July 31, under the direction of Madame Blanche Cole. The executants will be, amongst others, Madame Blanche Cole, Misses Franklin, Gertrude Ashton, Cook, Manetti, and Annie Sinclair, Messrs Nordblom, Aynsley Cook, Ledwidge, and George Perren. A large chorus and band will be under the direction of Mr Sydney Naylor. The opening opera will be Wallace's Lurline, and the repertoire will consist of Geraldine (Le Puits d'Amour), by Balfe, and Satanella by the same composer; the Crown Diamonds, Black Domino, and Fra Diavolo of Anber; Wallace's Maritana, an English version of the Nozæ di Figaro, etc.—(Communicated.)

Mr Carl Rosa has secured the services of Mdlle Torriani, a prima donna at Her Majesty Opera in 1873, who has since then been prima donna assoluta of the Strakosch Italian Opera Company in the United States. Mr Rosa has also engaged Signor Campobello, late of Her Majesty's Opera, and (as principal contralto) Miss Yorke, a young American lady, who has recently made a great success in Italy. The cast of the Marriage of Figaro, with which the season at the Princess's Theatre probably opens on September 11, will be:—Susanna, Miss Rose Hersee; Countess Almaviva, Mdlle Torriani; Cherubino, Miss Yorke; Marcellina, Mrs Aynsley Cook; Almaviva, Mr Campobello; Basilio, Mr Charles Lyall; Bartolo, Mr Aynsley Cook; Antonio, Mr Arthur Howell; and Figaro, Mr Santley.

Norwich Musical Festival.—There was a rehearsal of choruses, on the evening of the 19th inst., for the Norwich Musical Festival, in St Andrew's Hall, Sir Julius Benedict conducting. Mr A. Sullivan has intimated to the Committee of Management his regret that he is unable to complete his promised cantata of David and Jonathan. Mr Sullivan's health is not in a very satisfactory state, and his medical advisers have recommended perfect rest. Sir George J. Elvey's "Wedding March," composed by him for the marriage of the Princess Louise, will probably be produced at the festival. Mr W. T. Best, organist of the Royal Albert Hall and St George's Hall, Liverpool, will also contribute an overture expressly composed for the occasion. Among other overtures which will be performed at the festival may be mentioned Wagner's Lohengrin, Weber's Jubilee, Rossini's William Tell, &c. (A lively programme!—D. P.)

Miss Emily Tate, a very youthful and intelligent pianist, gave a concert in St George's Hall last Saturday evening, which was very well attended by her friends and supporters. Miss Tate opened the concert with Beethoven's Sonata (Op. 24) for violin and pianoforte, the violinist being Herr Rydl. It was appreciated and applauded by the audience. Miss Tate, whose proclivities are quite classical, next essayed Beethoven's Sonata (Op. 27), No. 2, and Bach's Partitur in B, in both of which she was equally successful. The gique in the Partitur was capitally played; and Miss Tate deserved all the applause she received. Miss Tate began the second part of the concert with Beethoven's Trio (Op. 1), No. 2, assisted by Herren Rydl and Daubert (violin and violoncello), and afterwards gave Chopin's Scherzo in B (Op. 31) and Liszt's Fantasia on Verdi's Rigoletto, which, being to the taste of a large portion of the audience, met with very great applause. Miss Marie Duval sang, remarkably well, John Thomas's setting of "Gelert's Grave," and Randegger's "Only for One;" Miss May Rolt gave songs by Taubert and other German composers, and Herr Werrenrath a Danish song and one by Gounod. Milles Victoria and Felicia Bunsen, Mr Burleigh Tesseman, Mr Sydney Naylor, and Herr Schubert were announced to appear, but failed to "put in an appearance." Herr Lehmeyer and another artist, whose name we could not learn, accompanied the vocal music on the pianoforte.

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